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Sept. 29, 2009

DURHAM, NH. – The polarization, policy crisis and hyper-politics of the interactions between the presidency and Congress will be the topic of a lecture Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2009, at the University of New Hampshire.

"The Presidency and Congress: Polarization, Policy Crisis and Hyper-Politics," will be presented by Alan Gitelson, professor of political science at Loyola University Chicago. The lecture starts at 11 a.m. in Murkland Hall 115. The lecture, which is sponsored by the UNH Department of Political Science, is free and open to the public.

Gitelson is the author of "American Political Parties: Stability and Change" (Houghton Mifflin), "American Government" (9th ed. 2009, Wadsworth/Cengage Publishers), "Public Policy and Economic Institutions," (JAI Press), and "American Elections: The Rules Matter" (Longman Publishers, 2002).

He has served as a member of the executive council of the American Political Science Association's division on political organizations and parties, and the APSA committee on education and professional development. He was the founding director of the Magis Initiative at Loyola University, initiated in 2001 across all colleges of the university to more systematically introduce civic education and engagement, collaborative leadership, diversity and global perspectives into the undergraduate curriculum.

Gitelson is a frequent guest commentator on radio and television interview programs speaking on topics including campaigns, elections and campaign financing, civic education and engagement, presidential and congressional elections, the media, political parties, and interest groups and PACs.

The University of New Hampshire, founded in 1866, is a world-class public research university with the feel of a New England liberal arts college. A land, sea, and space-grant university, UNH is the state's flagship public institution, enrolling 11,800 undergraduate and 2,400 graduate students.